

the exercise of their duties by any intervening friends.

We will not add here one word in defence of our beloved Archbishop de Landas-Berghes or of Father Vanderfel, because they are men whose boots Francis and Cyprian, the self appointed Doms, are not even fit to clean, and they can, if they wish, defend themselves far better than we can.

Excuse us, Dear Madam, for taking up too much space of your Excellent Magazine, but believe us, we wrote briefly in the circumstances, because for these men's misdeeds, we need volumes.

Thanking you very much, we are Madam

Respectfully yours,

✠ RT. REV. C. H. CARFORA, D.D.

OLD ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP

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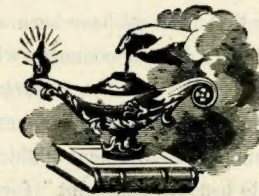
Chicago, Ill.



ANSWER TO HARDING, ALIAS DOM CIPOLLINE, ALIAS DOM CYPRIAN, ALIAS DOM AUGUSTINE, Etc.

By RT. REV. C. H. CARFORA, D. D.

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ANSWER TO HARDING

ALIAS DOM CIPOLLINE, ALIAS DOM CYPRIAN, ALIAS
DOM AUGUSTINE, ETC.

To The Editor "DIVINE LIFE"

Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Madame,—Permit me to reply briefly to the person, who writes you under the name of Dom Cyprian, one of many aliases, formerly of Waukegan and now of this city.

This is not the first time we have been attacked by this unspeakable creature, but in common with every self-respecting man who has had the *misfortune* to have met and helped pecuniarily this person, I have heretofore ignored his false and malicious statements, which are, like the individual, "quite beneath contempt" for wherever he is known, he is absolutely discredited. His old age has also protected him to a certain extent, but his general want of "Character" through his previous bad records, has *long ago* placed him beyond the bounds of *Christianity, Morality or Civilization*.

I feel however that at the present time, before he descends to an *unhallowed grave*, it is my bounden duty to administer to the awful creature some discipline in the shape of exposure which may have some effect in producing feelings of atonement for a terrible past. For instance,

why did he leave the *Oblates of Mary Immaculate*? What were the crimes against him there? He assured us that he held the rank of Subdeacon then. That statement is a deliberate falsehood, as the order will prove. What was that he was turned out of St. Rochus' Rectory House by Rev. Louis Lops, "his usual and permanent misconduct" was it not *continual drunkenness and immoral and obscene language*? In fact why has he been turned out of every place in which during a "long and evil life", he has been able to get a temporary footing, but for the same SINS.

Why did his present retainer "Francis" alias "Willie Brothers," alias "Bishop Gregorius," alias "Bishop Francis," alias "Dom Francis etc, etc." (Vide Living Church of 1914 at page 676, Caution by Villatte against Francis) "with numerous aliases like himself" denounced Cyprian in his "Magazine rag" the CATHOLIC STAR in December 1914 as the "man who had been oftener in prison than any man who ever wore a clerical dress." The world knows him too well owing to his numerous exposures. That reminds me of a temporary disgrace which his vile conduct almost brought upon a charitably disposed church dignitary once, who gave him an overcoat in Charity, but the self-styled "Dom Cyprian" having subsequently received a little money for railway fare, (money has always been denied him except on extraordinary occasions, lest he should get drunk) was found by the Police drunk in the gutter at Green Bay and the name on the over-coat induced the Police to believe that the drunken and disreputable vagrant wearer was the eminent Clergyman in question until the matter was explained.

In 1912 we found the creature (old Harding) "closed tiled" in the Salvation Army Home in Cleveland, Ohio, and in reply to our questions as to how he got there, he exclaimed: "*that whisky, that whisky, Help, help, help me Father Carfora, I am the lowest tramp and vagabond.*" We gave him a coin which he kissed several times, doubtless thinking of the whisky which it would realize.

We were subsequently informed by numerous priests that Old Cyprian had been several times arrested for misconduct and drunkenness in Chicago.

On 3rd October 1916, the eve of our Consecration, as Regionary Bishop, we were surprised to find Cyprian in Francis' house, Waukegan, Illinois, and on interrogating him, he assured us he was then a *cook* for Francis, adding that "this beast of Francis takes more care of his monkey and crocodile than he does of me."

The next day 4th October 1916 we received Consecration at the hands of Archbishop de Landas-Berghes et de Rache in the private Chapel, and Francis was present, yet with his characteristic adhesion to falsehood he unblushingly informed Rev. D. Robert Joschko and Dr. M. Coppola, quite recently in Chicago, that we had never been consecrated, in face of all the proofs of such consecration.

The Cyprian's bareless falsification that we formerly had been a Lay brother is really unworthy of notice, especially when it has been previously nailed to the desk as without any foundation, but to show your readers the kind of persons they encounter in the self assumed *Dom and gutter Parson*, we append herewith the record of our services in the Church

and also the extract from the Waukegan Daily Sun of Friday October 6th, 1916.

We were ordained to Minors Orders by Bp. Pasquale de Siena in Naples, Italy March 23rd 1901. Subdeacon by the same, 1st of May 1901. Deacon by Mgr. Giuseppe Cigliano, auxiliary Bp. to Cardinal Prisco, 15th of August 1901 and to the Priesthood by Mgr. Francesco Vento of Aversa, Italy, 21 December 1901. We hold also a certificate of good moral character and social standing from the Superior Court of Benevento, Italy dates 17 of December 1909, the same year we left the Roman Catholic Church and joined the Old Roman Catholic Church in America.

We came to this Country on the 4th day of December 1905 and on 11th March 1906 we were called by Bp. P. J. Donahue of Wheeling, W. Va. In this Diocese we remained till February 1908, building two Churches, Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Weaver, and St. Joseph in Fairmont, W. Va.

From April 9, 1908 to April 27th 1917 we were in Youngstown, Ohio, St. Rochus' Old Roman Catholic Church. From April 28th 1917 we have been here in Chicago, Ill.

During our Pastorate in Youngstown, Ohio, we were consecrated Bishop in Waukegan, Ill., by Archbishop Prince and Duke de Landas-Berghes et de Rache.

Extract from Waukegan Daily Sun, 6 October 1916. "*Great accessions etc. Most Rev. Archbishop de Landas-Berghes et de Rache, Metropolitan of the Old Roman Catholic Church has just accepted the submission of and received into union with the church the whole of the National Catholic Diocese of North America. There are 8 Churches and 3 Mis-*

sions in the Diocese. The Bishop in charge of the National Catholic Church is the Rt. Rev. Carmel H. Carfora, a young well known and able theologian, formerly a priest in one of the great Catholic religious orders, but whose episcopate was conferred by a Syrian-Jacobite Bishop, has been re-consecrated Bishop by Archbishop de Landas-Berghes et de Rache to obviate the possibility of defect in his previous consecration."

The day after our consecration we left for Youngstown, Ohio the city of our Episcopal residence.

In February 1917 Archbishop de Landas-Berghes notified us that Francis had been deposed from the exercise of all ecclesiastical offices and rank, having obtained the same by false and sacrilegious representations and for other numerous causes.

The key to the malign and false calumnies circulated by the unfortunate Cyprian against us may be partly found in the following correspondence.

In 1917 we received a communication from Harding of which the following is a copy.

St. Benedict's 829 8th Street.
To The Waukegan, Ill. Sep. 26th 1917.
Rt Rev. C. Carfora D. D.
116 Calvin Street
Youngstown, Ohio.
Monseigneur,

I was ordained priest last Pentecost. If you have any position for an English priest in your diocese for me I should be glad to change my location.

I trust you are well and prosperous, and that your diocese is ever on the increase.

Faithfully yours in Xto
(Signed) Dom Cyprian Jeromonachus

To this letter we replied that Cyprian was not a priest at all, because the so-called ordination he received from a man who was merely a deposed Vicar Apostolic so that any acts of his were absolutely null and void. This apparently made Cyprian angry and vulgarly rude, for he next wrote addressing us as a Lay person and not as a Bishop, saying we ought to write in Italian or Latin, as our English was full of mistakes. But he did forget that in a former letter in one word of Latin he made two mistakes: *Hieromonachus*, not "Jeromonachus."

The twain, so much alike in character mutually hate each other, but a mutual "desire" to prey upon the unsuspecting Public, as well as Francis' dire necessity to have someone write his letters, as he is too illiterate to do so unaided, and other dirty work, and the necessity of the "Old broken down monk" to eke out the merest of meagre existences in which he exists with Francis, keeps them together.

After detailing the above facts, to draw any comparisons between any one of the "self styled" Doms, now vitiating the air of Chicago with their presence, however of one thing we are certain that their stay here will be a very limited one. They have apparently escaped the penalty of the charges on which they were arrested at Waukegan some time ago, for gross immorality and corrupting young boys, but "the Society for the protection of morals" has its Agents here also, and we hope they will not be impeded in